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LETTER DATED 20 JULY 1994 FROM THE DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to present to you the attached letter, dated 18 July 1994, from my President addressed to you.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ivan Z. MISIĆ
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 18 July 1994 from the President of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the President of the Security Council

While engaged in ethnic cleansing and human rights abuses outside its borders, the Belgrade regime also vigorously conducts this policy against the Bosniac Muslim population of the Sanjak region.

The Belgrade regime has deployed more than 10,000 soldiers in the Sanjak region, very close to the border of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. These troops are augmented with a large concentration of heavy military equipment. This is a manifestation of the Belgrade regime's utilization of Sanjak's geographical position to achieve two goals.

First, numerous and intense military manoeuvres in the Sanjak have led to the forced displacement of more than 75,000 Bosniac Muslims. As a result, 45 villages have been totally cleansed of their Bosniac Muslim residents. Through these methods as well as continuing police and paramilitary harassment, the ethnic structure of Sanjak has changed drastically.

Secondly, the "Yugoslav Army" has used its overwhelming presence in the Sanjak to provide all forms of military assistance to its nationalist surrogates in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, essentially using the area as a base of operations for its aggression. Recently, on 6 and 7 July 1994, 25 tanks and other military vehicles entered the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina using a road that connects the town of Pljevalja, in the Sanjak region, with the town of Cajnice, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the point of entry being near the town of Priboj.

I believe the international community is aware of its interest in stabilizing the Balkan region. Towards this end, the Sanjak region must not be excluded in the search for a just and durable peace.

(Signed) Alija IZETBEGOVIC
President